3-month summary

- Chance of warm conditions is higher than normal
- Increased likelihood of the period being dry
- A wet period is still possible though is less likely than normal

3-month likelihood of impact

Temperature

5%	45%	50%
chance the season will be COOL	chance the season will be NEAR AVERAGE	chance the season will be WARM
0.3× the normal chance	0.8× the normal chance	2.5× the normal chance

Precipitation

30%	55%	15%
chance the season will be DRY	chance the season will be NEAR AVERAGE	chance the season will be WET
1.5× the normal chance	0.9× the normal chance	0.8× the normal chance

Wind speed

25%	60%	15%
chance the season will be CALM	chance the season will be NEAR AVERAGE	chance the season will be WINDY
1.3× the normal chance	1.0× the normal chance	0.8× the normal chance

1-month summary

- Slight increase in the likelihood of a warm April
- Some cooler spells remain possible
- Balanced likelihood of either a wet or dry month

1-month likelihood of impact

Temperature

10%	65%	25%
chance the month will be COOL	chance the month will be NEAR AVERAGE	chance the month will be WARM
0.5× the normal chance	1.1× the normal chance	1.3× the normal chance

Precipitation

20%	60%	20%
chance the month will be DRY	chance the month will be NEAR AVERAGE	chance the month will be WET
1.0× the normal chance	1.0× the normal chance	1.0× the normal chance

Wind speed

20%	60%	20%
chance the month will be CALM	chance the month will be NEAR AVERAGE	chance the month will be WINDY
1.0× the normal chance	1.0× the normal chance	1.0× the normal chance

Understanding the Outlook

The Outlook uses 3 categories for possible UK temperature, precipitation and wind speed in the next 1 and 3 months:

COOL, NEAR AVERAGE and WARM for temperature
WET, NEAR AVERAGE and DRY for precipitation
CALM, NEAR AVERAGE and WINDY for wind speed

These are linked to observed UK conditions in past years. The NEAR AVERAGE category represents typical conditions for the period and has a normal likelihood of 60%. The higher and lower categories represent more unusual conditions that are more likely to produce impacts. Each has a normal likelihood of 20%.

The Outlook shows how the chances of occurrence of the categories differ from normal, based on knowledge of expected global meteorological patterns. It does not identify which category will actually occur.

Same 3-month period over the last 10 years

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
COOL	WARM	COOL	NEAR AVERAGE	WARM	WARM	NEAR AVERAGE	WARM	COOL	WARM
NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	DRY	NEAR AVERAGE	DRY	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE
WINDY	CALM	WINDY	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	CALM	NEAR AVERAGE	CALM	NEAR AVERAGE

Same 1-month period over the last 10 years

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
COOL	WARM	NEAR AVERAGE	COOL	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	WARM	COOL	NEAR AVERAGE
NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	DRY	NEAR AVERAGE	DRY	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	DRY	DRY	NEAR AVERAGE
WINDY	NEAR AVERAGE	CALM	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	NEAR AVERAGE	CALM	CALM	CALM

Outlook in context

Drivers of UK weather for April to June
The impact of global weather patterns acts to shift the chances of the categories in the Outlook. However, typically in spring their influence tends to decrease. Drivers relevant to the current Outlook are:
• The warming of UK climate consistent with wider global warming trends
• Above average sea temperatures around the UK
• The Madden Julian Oscillation moving across the Indian Ocean which increases the chances of westerly winds in early April
• The recent SSW favours higher than average pressure to the north of the UK into April

The long lived La Niña has ended with ENSO (El Niño-Southern Oscillation) most likely to be neutral through to early summer and therefore no longer provides predictive value

Long-range weather predictions
The Met Office and other prediction centres around the world routinely produce long-range predictions of conditions in the months ahead. There is good agreement that during April pressure will be higher than average to the north and lower than average to the south. This will see rain-bearing systems track further south than usual. During May and June signals become more mixed though there is an increased likelihood that high pressure will have a greater influence than normal. This favours drier and warmer than average conditions.

Impact
The increased chance of warm conditions through the period is consistent with our warning climate. This suggests the chance of hot weather and heatwaves are increased compared to average, particularly later in this period. For the full period, the likelihood of impacts from rain and strong winds is lower than normal. Wetter spells of weather are still likely at times, during April this is particularly the case for southern parts of the country.

Outlook compared to normal likelihood

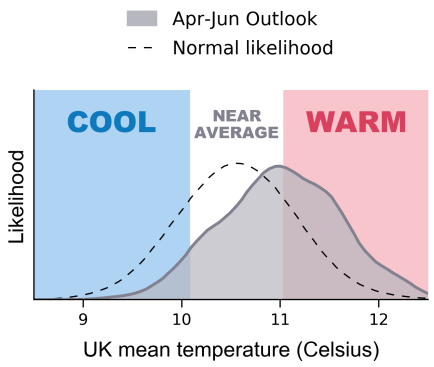
The curves below show the likelihood of the 1- and 3-month average temperature, precipitation and wind speed taking specific values. In each case:

- The dashed curve shows the normal likelihood based on how often each value has been recorded in past years
- The solid curve shows the current likelihood based on the Outlook for this year

The differences in these curves show how the probabilities for the coming periods differ compared to past years. Where the solid curve (corresponding to this year's Outlook) lies above the dashed curve (normal likelihood), the temperature, precipitation or wind speed at that point has a greater-than-normal likelihood of occurring. Likewise, wherever it is below the dashed curve, the likelihood of those values is less than normal.

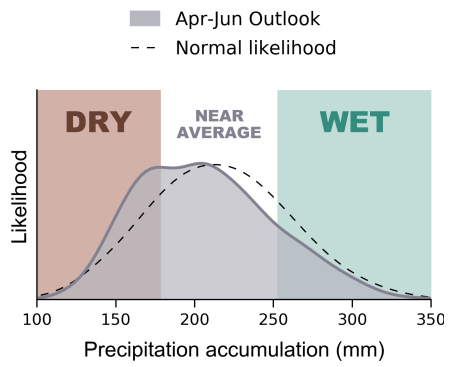
A shift of the solid curve to the left of the dashed curve indicates an increase in the chances of below-average temperature, rainfall or winds. A shift to the right, meanwhile, indicates increased chances of above-average values.

3-month temperature Outlook compared to normal



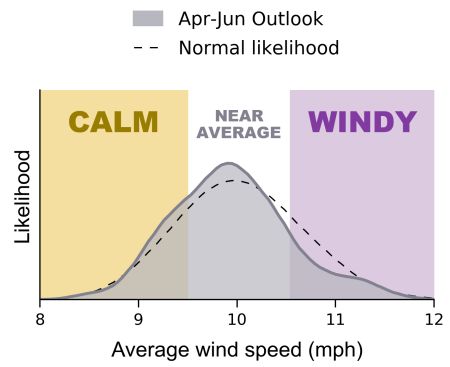
Likelihood leans strongly towards warm

3-month precipitation Outlook compared to normal



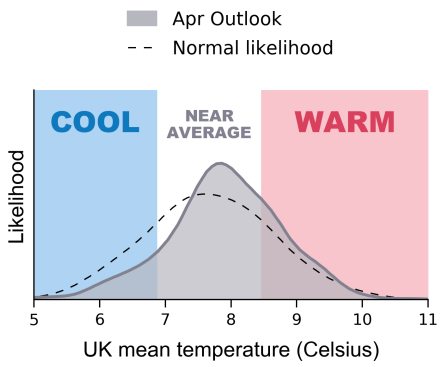
Likelihood leans towards dry

3-month wind speed Outlook compared to normal



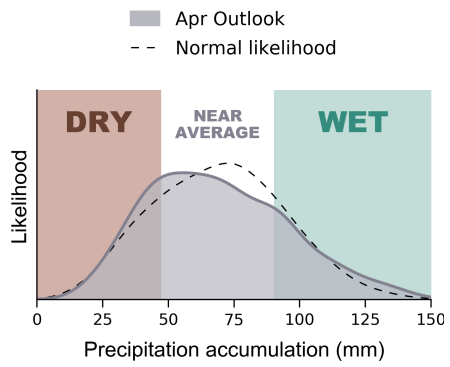
Likelihood leans slightly towards calm

1-month temperature Outlook compared to normal



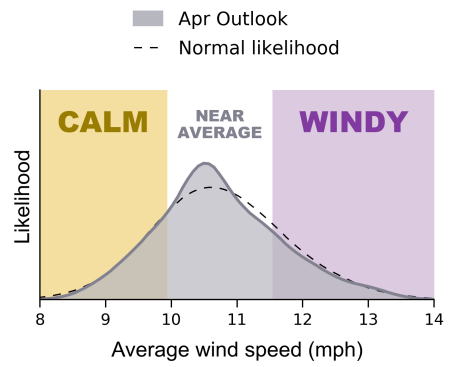
Likelihood leans away from cool

1-month precipitation Outlook compared to normal



Balanced likelihood of wet and dry

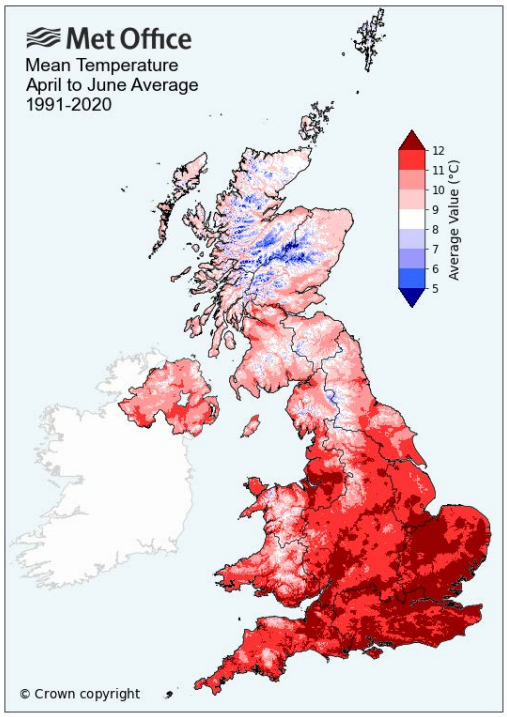
1-month wind speed Outlook compared to normal



Balanced likelihood of calm and windy

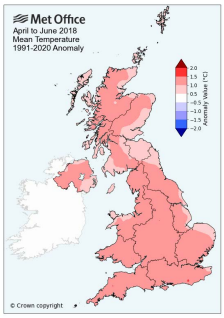
Long-term average temperatures (3-month)

This page shows the long-term average temperatures across the UK applicable to the 3-month Outlook period.

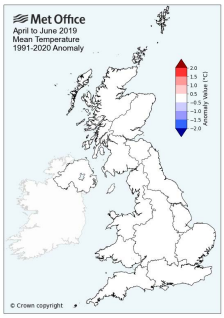


Average temperatures for April - June based on observations of past years.

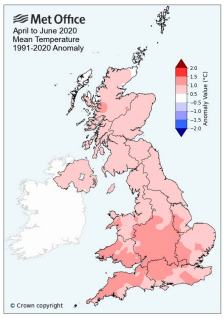
Last 5 years temperatures, difference from average (3-month)



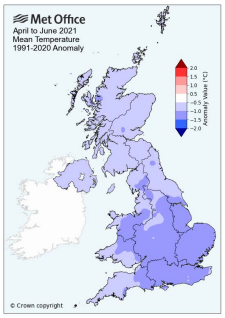
Apr - Jun 2018



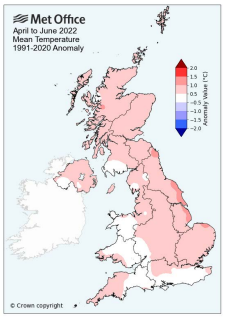
Apr - Jun 2019



Apr - Jun 2020



Apr - Jun 2021



Apr - Jun 2022

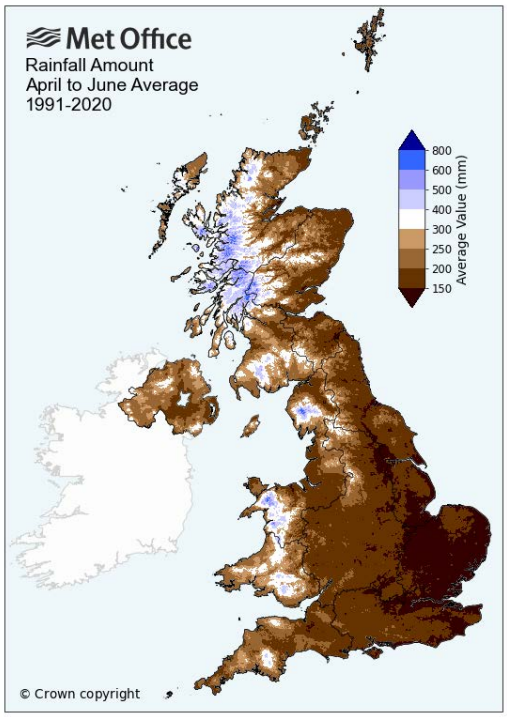
Anomaly (°C)

< -2.0	-2.0 to -1.5	-1.5 to -1.0	-1.0 to-0.5	-0.5 to 0.5	0.5 to 1.0	1.0 to 1.5	1.5 to 2.0	> 2.0

These maps show how April - June temperatures in the last five years differed from the long-term average temperatures shown above in the upper panel. Pink and red colours indicate warmer-than-average conditions while blue shades indicate cooler-than-average conditions. Detailed information on the climate of the UK is available at www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate.

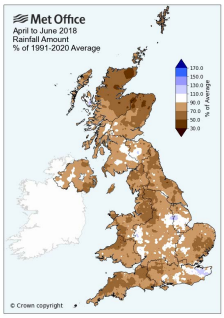
Long-term average precipitation (3-month)

This page shows the long-term average precipitation across the UK applicable to the 3-month Outlook period.

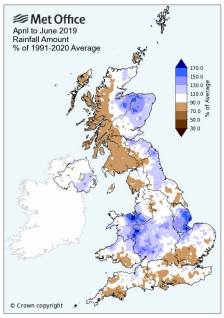


Average precipitation for April - June based on observations of past years.

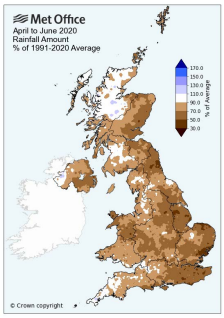
Last 5 years precipitation, difference from average (3-month)



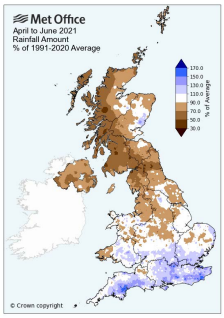
Apr - Jun 2018



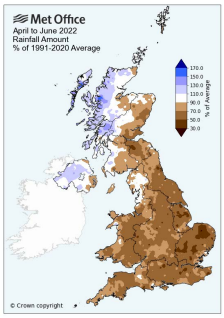
Apr - Jun 2019



Apr - Jun 2020



Apr - Jun 2021



Apr - Jun 2022

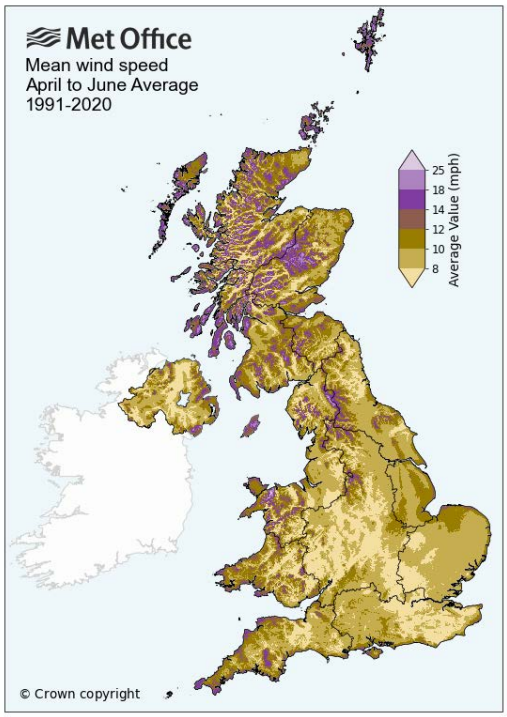
% of average

< 30	30 to 50	50 to 70	70 to 90	90 to 110	110 to 130	130 to 150	150 to 170	> 170

These maps show how April - June precipitation in the last five years differed from the long-term average precipitation shown above in the upper panel. Brown colours indicate drier-than-average conditions while blue shades indicate wetter-than-average conditions. Detailed information on the climate of the UK is available at www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate.

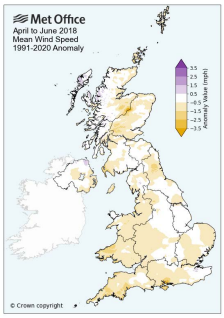
Long-term average wind speed (3-month)

This page shows the long-term average wind speed across the UK applicable to the 3-month Outlook period.

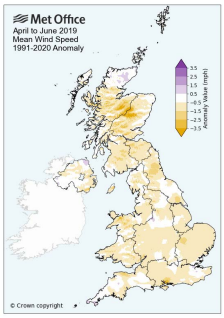


Average wind speed for April - June based on observations of past years.

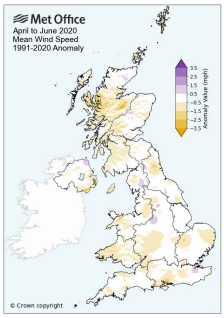
Last 5 years wind speed, difference from average (3-month)



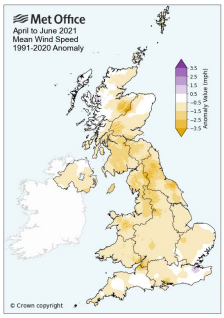
Apr - Jun 2018



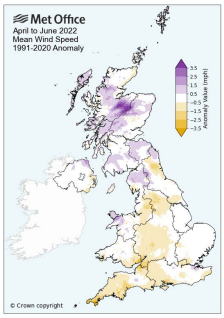
Apr - Jun 2019



Apr - Jun 2020



Apr - Jun 2021



Apr - Jun 2022

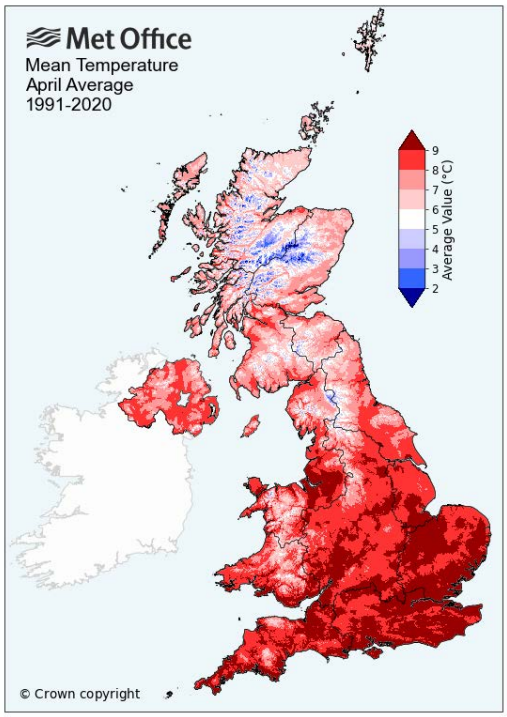
Anomaly (mph)

< -3.5	-3.5 to -2.5	-2.5 to -1.5	-1.5 to -0.5	-0.5 to 0.5	0.5 to 1.5	1.5 to 2.5	2.5 to 3.5	> 3.5

These maps show how April - June wind speed in the last five years differed from the long-term average wind speeds shown above in the upper panel. Yellow colours indicate calmer-than-average conditions while purple shades indicate windier-than-average conditions. Detailed information on the climate of the UK is available at www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate.

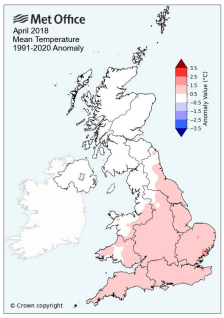
Long-term average temperatures (1-month)

This page shows the long-term average temperatures across the UK applicable to the 1-month Outlook period.

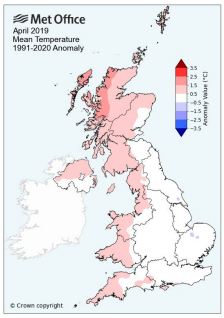


Average temperatures for April based on observations of past years.

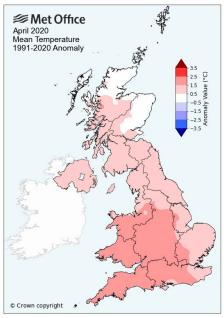
Last 5 years temperatures, difference from average (1-month)



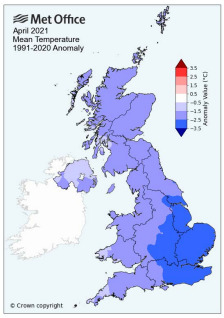
Apr 2018



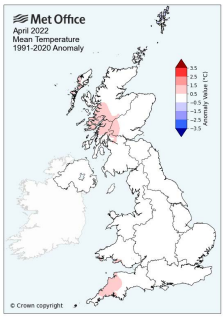
Apr 2019



Apr 2020



Apr 2021



Apr 2022

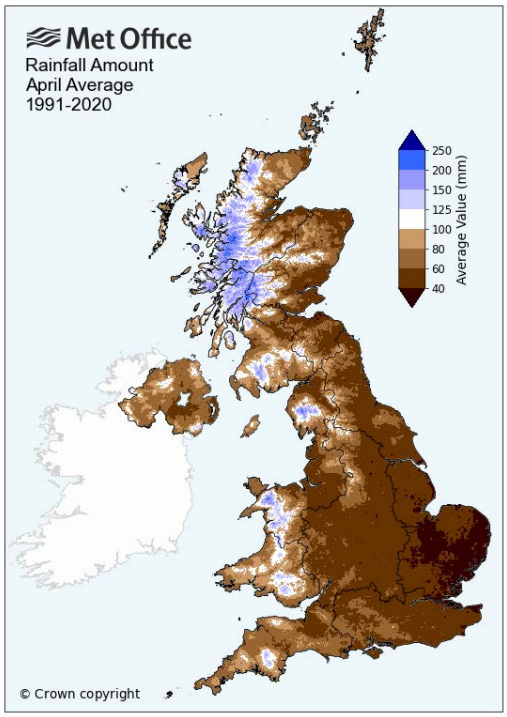
Anomaly (°C)

< -3.5	-3.5 to -2.5	-2.5 to -1.5	-1.5 to -0.5	-0.5 to 0.5	0.5 to 1.5	1.5 to 2.5	2.5 to 3.5	> 3.5

These maps show how April temperatures in the last five years differed from the long-term average temperatures shown above in the upper panel. Pink and red colours indicate warmer-than-average conditions while blue shades indicate cooler-than-average conditions. Detailed information on the climate of the UK is available at www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate.

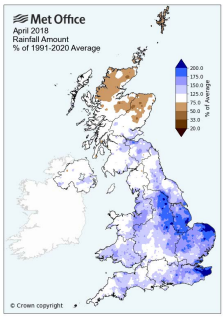
Long-term average precipitation (1-month)

This page shows the long-term average precipitation across the UK applicable to the 1-month Outlook period.

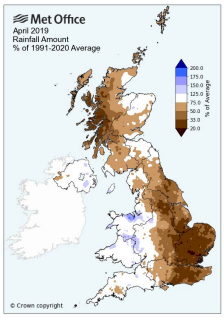


Average precipitation for April based on observations of past years.

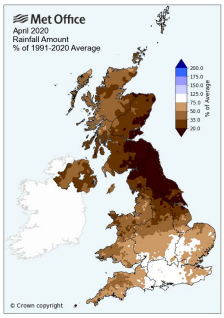
Last 5 years precipitation, difference from average (1-month)



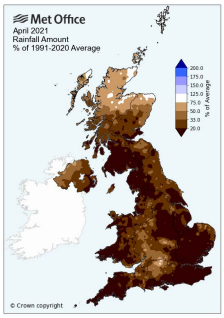
Apr 2018



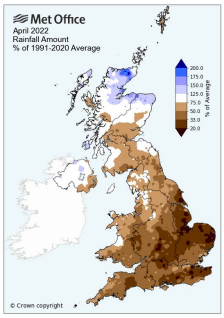
Apr 2019



Apr 2020



Apr 2021



Apr 2022

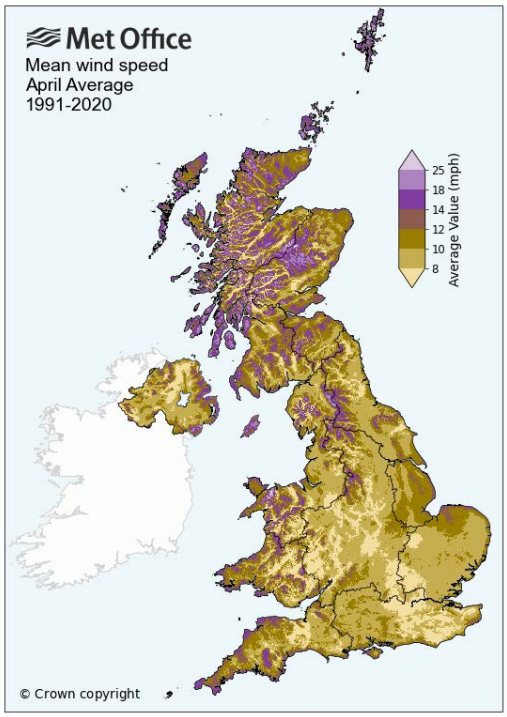
% of average

< 20	20 to 33	33 to 50	50 to 75	75 to 125	125 to 150	150 to 175	175 to 200	> 200

These maps show how April precipitation in the last five years differed from the long-term average precipitation shown above in the upper panel. Brown colours indicate drier-than-average conditions while blue shades indicate wetter-than-average conditions. Detailed information on the climate of the UK is available at www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate.

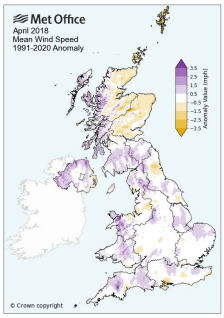
Long-term average wind speed (1-month)

This page shows the long-term average wind speed across the UK applicable to the 1-month Outlook period.

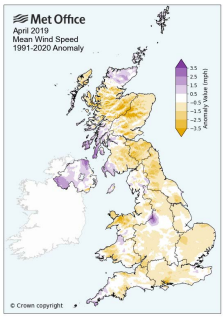


Average wind speed for April based on observations of past years.

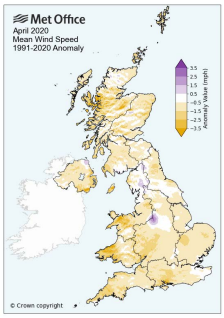
Last 5 years wind speed, difference from average (1-month)



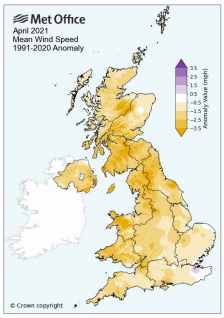
Apr 2018



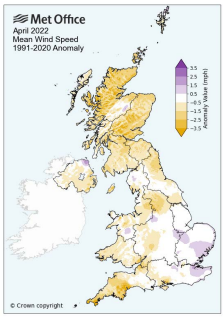
Apr 2019



Apr 2020



Apr 2021



Apr 2022

Anomaly (mph)

< -3.5	-3.5 to -2.5	-2.5 to -1.5	-1.5 to -0.5	-0.5 to 0.5	0.5 to 1.5	1.5 to 2.5	2.5 to 3.5	> 3.5

These maps show how April wind speed in the last five years differed from the long-term average wind speeds shown above in the upper panel. Yellow colours indicate calmer-than-average conditions while purple shades indicate windier-than-average conditions. Detailed information on the climate of the UK is available at www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate.

Q&As

Q. What is the point of the Outlook, who is it meant for?
A. This Outlook is produced for planners in government and business who make risk-based decisions. These users are aware of the complexities of this type of outlook and will include those factors in their decision-making process.

Q. How did you decide on the Outlook? What are the main factors affecting it?
A. It is based on information from observations, several numerical prediction systems and expert judgement. See the 'Outlook in Context' section of the Outlook for more details.

Q. Is the Outlook for the whole country?
A. The Outlook is for the average of conditions over the UK as a whole. Regional deviations from the UK-average can occur. For example, average UK precipitation can result from below-average rainfall for the northwest and above-average for the southeast.

Q. How confident are you in this Outlook?
A. The percentages in the 'Likelihood of Impact' sections of the Outlook give the level of confidence.

Q. With warmer-than-average conditions more likely than normal are we are likely to have a heatwave?
A. Average temperatures are lower in spring than summer, and warmer than usual days may still not reach heatwave temperature thresholds, especially earlier in this period. An increased chance of warmer-than-average conditions could just as easily reflect a mix of hot and cool days, warm nights, or less extreme levels of warmth rather than heatwave conditions. There remains a chance of cooler conditions too.

Q. Is there a chance we could see a return of drought conditions?
A. There is an above average chance of seeing high pressure during April, May and June potentially reducing the likelihood of impacts from rainfall. There is uncertainty whether high pressure will be centred over or close to the UK and therefore uncertainty in the frequency and influence of rain-bearing systems. Wetter spells of weather are still possible and regional variations in rainfall within the UK can be substantial. The exact impact of rainfall (or lack thereof) on water resources is complex, going beyond meteorology into hydrology and water management. The Met Office contributes to the UK Centre of Ecology and Hydrology (UKCEH) Hydrological Outlook, for more information about drought risks check with EA, SEPA, NRW and NI Direct.

About the Outlook

The Outlook presented here is for United Kingdom as a whole and is based on information from observations, several numerical prediction systems and expert judgement. It is updated monthly to reflect the latest information on global weather patterns and their effect on the UK. The Outlook is designed to be used in conjunction with shorter-range forecasts – detailed weather forecast information is available on the Met Office website.

In this product, temperature refers to the average of daytime maxima and night-time minima. Wind speed refers to the average wind speed at a height of 10 metres. All numerical values relate to averages (temperature, wind speed) or totals (precipitation – rain, sleet, snow and hail) over 1 or 3 months, which are further averaged over the UK land area as a whole. Normal likelihood and long-term averages are established using the period 1991-2020.

Find out more

- UK 3-month Outlook user guidance page:
  https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/services/government/contingency-planners/user-guidance/user-guidance
- Explainers on climate drivers (such as the El Niño Southern Oscillation and North Atlantic Oscillation) that influence seasonal forecasts and the impacts they can have on UK weather:
  https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/services/government/contingency-planners/seasonal-forecasts-and-climate-drivers-resources
- Contingency planners page:
  https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/services/government/contingency-planners/index

Contact us

Website:
www.metoffice.gov.uk

Email:
enquiries@metoffice.gov.uk

Provide your feedback

We would like to hear your feedback on the UK 3-month Outlook to understand how it is being used. Please fill in the short form using this link or QR code to share your thoughts.